



# **FIRE MOBILIZATION NEWS FROM THE STATE OF WASHINGTON**

State Emergency Operations Center  
Camp Murray, Washington



**For immediate release**

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## **Update: Needle Creek Fire**

Firefighters from Okanogan, Grant, Douglas, and Chelan Counties continue to assist local firefighters working to contain the Needle Creek Fire, which is approximately eight miles east of Mazama.

Winds have increased with the marine push that traveled across the cascades and the fire has picked up. There is an immediate threat to approximately 50-70 homes and a level three evacuation has been ordered. A total of 400 firefighters and 73 engines/tenders are at the scene, and continue to fight the now 10,000-acre blaze that started on August 5<sup>th</sup> from a lightening strike. The American Red Cross is prepared to provide shelter at the Red Barn located at 51 North, Highway 20 near Winthrop.

The Washington State Fire Services Mobilization Plan was authorized at 11:55 a.m. Saturday morning, and implemented by the Fire Protection Bureau with support from the state's Emergency Management Division at the State Emergency Operations Center at Camp Murray.

Creating a defensible space around your home is a must for residents living in a potential wild land fire area. The following are the 10 steps to defensible space:

- Thin tree and brush cover.
- Dispose of slash and debris left from thinning.
- Remove dead limbs, leaves and other litter.
- Stack firewood away from home.
- Maintain irrigated green belt around the home.
- Mow dry grasses and weeds.
- Prune branches to 10 feet above the ground.
- Trim branches.
- Clean roof and gutters.
- Reduce density of surrounding forest.

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